

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 155916

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 /015 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EA:ABALL:JFW

APPROVED BY CU/EA:RLNICHOLS

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R 020110Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 155916

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, JA

SUBJECT: REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STUDIES

--- SPECIALISTS: NEIL HARRIS

REF: TOKYO 8700; STATE 115136

1. HARRIS SAYS HE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING AFTER REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 8 THROUGH 11 OR 12 PROVIDING HE CAN SPEND SOME TIME SIGHTSEEING IN KYOTO AND NARA. HE HAS NO OBJECTION TO BEING PROGRAMMED IN OSAKA-KYOTO AREA DURING SIGHTSEEING PERIOD AND WOULD ALSO BE WILLING TO SPEAK AT ANOTHER POST IF FEASIBLE, GIVEN LIMITED TIME FRAME.

2. HARRIS' MAIN INTEREST IS IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TECHNOLOGY AND VALUES. BEGINNING IN THE FALL, HE WILL DIRECT THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED NATIONAL HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, BEING FUNDED BY NEH, WHICH WILL FOCUS IN AN INTERDISCIPLINARY MANNER ON HOW TECHNOLOGY CAN BE GRASPED BY THE HUMANITIES.

3. POSSIBLE SPEAKING TOPICS INCLUDE FOLLOWING: "AMERICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD ART"; "AMERICA'S VIEW OF FOREIGN ARTIFACTS"; "WE AND OUR MACHINES" (TITLE OF AN ARTICLE WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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APPEARED IN THE NOVEMBER, 1974 ISSUE OF THE NEW REPUBLIC WHICH DESCRIBES AMERICAN TECHNOLOGICAL NOSTALGIA FOR MACHINES); "AMERICAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY".

4. HARRIS IS SENDING DEPARTMENT UPDATED CURRICULUM VITAE. FOR PRESENT THE FOLLOWING DATA IS FOR POST'S INFORMATION:

BORN N.Y., JAN. 26, 1938. B.A. COLUMBIA, 58; KELLETT FELLOW CAMBRIDGE, 58-60; WOODROW WILSON FELLOW, HARVARD, 58; PH.D 65 (HARVARD); ASSOC. PROF., U. CHICAGO 69-72, PROF., 72-TO DATE; RESEARCH FELLOW, CHARLES WARREN CENTER, 67-68; MEMBER, BOARD OF ED., AMERICAN QUARTERLY 70 -- DATE; BOUCHER LECTURER, JOHNS HOPKINS 71; AM. COUNCIL LEARNED SOCS FELLOW, 72-73.

PUBLICATIONS:"THE ARTIST IN AMERICAN SOCIETY" (66); ED., "THE LAND OF CONTRASTS, 1880-1901", 70; "HUMBUG: THE ART OF P.T. BARNUM" (73); "THE GILDED AGE REVISITED", AM. QUARTERLY, (WINTER 63); "FOUR STAGES OF CULTURAL GROWTH: THE AMERICAN CITY", IND. HIST. SOC. LECTURE (71-72). INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE155916
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ABALL:JFW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750228-1128
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750791/aaaaddhr.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TOKYO 8700, 75 STATE 115136
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JAN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STUDIES --- SPECIALISTS: NEIL HARRIS
TAGS: OEXC, JA, (HARRIS, NEIL)
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006